



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

*The Pronunciation of Fredericksburg, Va.*

BY SYLVESTER PRIMER, PH. D., PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Prof. EDWARD A. FREEMAN—writing or speaking to a friend in regard to a young American who was going to the University of Jena in order to study Anglo-Saxon—remarked: “Why does he not go to Orange County, Va., instead of to Jena? They speak very good West-Saxon in Orange County.”<sup>1</sup> This statement may serve as an introduction to my remarks on the pronunciation of Fredericksburg, Va. For Stafford, Spotsylvania, and Orange Counties have about the same pronunciation and have preserved to a remarkable degree the older English sounds brought over in the seventeenth century by the early settlers of this region.

The earliest permanent settlements of the English in Virginia were along the banks of the James, Rappahannock, and Potomac Rivers and the early pioneers soon penetrated into the country now known as Stafford, Spotsylvania, and Orange Counties. In 1669 “the whole State of Virginia, except such parts as had been specially patented, was made over for a time to Lord Culpepper” (Bishop MEADE in ‘Old Churches, Ministers and Families of Virginia,’ ii, p. 105, to whom I owe most of the information about the early settlers of this region). The complaints were, however, so great and the opposition so threatening “that the King withdrew (1673) the grant of proprietorship of the whole State, and restricted it with limitations to the Northern Neck,” which “begins on the Chesapeake Bay and lies between the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers, and crossing the Blue Ridge, or passing through it, with the Potomac, at Harper’s Ferry, extends with the river to the heads thereof in the Alleghany Mountains, and thence by a straight line crosses the North Mountain and Blue Ridge, at the head waters of the Rappahannock. By common consent this is admitted to be the most fertile part of Virginia, and to abound in many advantages, whether we consider the rich supply of fish and oysters in the

---

<sup>1</sup> Communicated to me by President H. E. SHEPHERD of Charleston College, Charleston, S. C.

rivers and creeks of the tide-water portion of it and the rapid growth of its forests and improvable character of its soil, or the fertility of the lands of the valley, so much of which is evidently alluvial."

"There were settlements at an early period on the rich banks of the Potomac and Rappahannock by families of note, who took possession of those seats," etc., (ibid.). Lord Fairfax married Lord Culpepper's daughter, who inherited this whole region, which thus passed into the hands of the Fairfax family. Fredericksburg lies in this section and the three countries already mentioned take a prominent part in the history of the early settlement of this portion of the state. In its original dimensions—extending to the Blue Ridge, Stafford first appears as a county in 1666. In 1730, Prince Williams County was formed from the "heads of King George and Stafford." Among the early names of the county are the Rev. Alexander Scott and Rev. Mr. Moncure. Mr. Moncure, the descendant of a Huguenot refugee in Scotland, emigrated to Virginia in the eighteenth century and became pastor of the Old Acquia Church which still exists. In 1757 the minister and vestry of the church were Jon Moncure, minister; Peter Houseman, John Mercer, John Lee, Mott Danithon, Henry Tyler, William Montjoy, Benjamin Strother, Thomas Fitzhugh, John Peyton, Peter Daniel, Traverse Cooke, John Fitzhugh, vestrymen. Their descendants still live in different parts of the country. Spotsylvania was founded in 1720, from Essex, King William, and King and Queen Counties. It extended westward to *the river beyond the high mountains*,—the Shenandoah. Some of the more prominent names from 1725 to 1847 are Smith, Chew (frequent), Taliafero (frequent), Thornton (frequent), Lewis (frequent), Grayson, Beverly, Robinson, Curtis, Waller, Carter, Washington, Herndon (frequent), Wilhs, Sharpe, Weedon, Strachan, Maury, Mercer (late), Carmichael (late), Moncure (late?), J. B. Ficklin (late). The County of Orange was separated from Spotsylvania in the year 1734. It was "bounden southerly by the line of Hanover County, northerly by the grant of Lord Fairfax, and westerly by the utmost limits of Virginia." The principal families in Orange in Colonial times are the Barbours, Bells, Burtons, Campbells, Caves, Chews, Conways, Daniels, Madisons, Moores, Ruckers, Shepherds, Taylors, Taliaferos, Whites, Thomases, and Waughs. All of

these families are still represented in different parts of Virginia.

As early as 1675 there was a fort on the present site of Fredericksburg, but it was not incorporated as a town till 1727, on what was originally called lease land, and contained when first laid out fifty acres. The neighboring village of Falmouth was founded at the same time. "When Fredericksburg was incorporated there was a warehouse on the site. The act appointed John Robinson, Henry Willis, Augustine Smith, John Taliaferro, Harry Beverly, John Waller, and Jeremiah Clowder, trustees. Gen. Hugh Mercer and Gen. George Weedon, both of the army of the revolution, resided here before the war. Fredericksburg was also the home of Col. Fielding Lewis who married Elizabeth, sister of Washington. Their children were Capt. Fielding Lewis, Capt. Geo. Lewis, Elizabeth Lewis, who married Charles Carter, Esq., Maj. Lawrence Lewis, and Captain Robert Lewis. Though born in Westmoreland, Washington passed his childhood on the Washington Farm upon the banks of the Rappahannock, opposite Fredericksburg in Stafford County. There are still living representatives (relatives) of the family in the same county and they probably use nearly the same pronunciation as their ancestors. Lewis Littleplace was born in Hanover, but died in Fredericksburg and John Forsyth of Georgia was born at Fredericksburg in 1781. Conway, Fitzhugh, Moncure, Taliaferro (pr. Tólvır), Waller, Slaughter, Mason, Thornton, Ficklin, Edrington, Peyton, Willis, Mountjoy, Strother (in the State), Carter, Lee, are still prominent names in and about Fredericksburg. From a list of justices in Stafford County (old dimensions) extending from 1664 to 1857 we select the following familiar names many of which are still common. Williams, Alexander, Mason (frequent), Osburn, Fitzhugh (frequent), Waugh, Washington (frequent), Thornton, Lee, Carter, Peyton (frequent), Daniel (frequent), Scott, Waller, Mercer, Strother, Moncure, Edrington, Mountjoy, Ficklin, Lewis, Grayson, Cooke, Conway, Slaughter.

Descendants of the Fitzhugh family own farms in this section of the country. The Alexander family became extinct only a few years ago. The Lee family settled farther up the river on the Arlington Estate, though they are still represented in Stafford County. In Fredericksburg itself, descendants of Carter Braxton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, are still living. A comparison of the earlier names with those

of the present inhabitants shows that the present families represent almost exclusively the earlier families. Intermixture from without has not been great, foreigners have rarely sought homes here and immigration from other states has been limited.

"Early settlers of Virginia were men of education, minister., teachers, lawyers, doctors, merchants, Huguenots, farmers, Cavaliers in the time of Cornwell. Ministers could not generally be ordained without degrees from Cambridge, Oxford, Dublin, or Edinburgh. Lawyers studied at the Temple Bar in London; physicians in Edinburgh. For a long time Virginia was dependent for all these professional characters on English education. Those who came over to this country poor and ignorant, and dependent, had few opportunities of educating themselves. . . Sir William Berkeley in his day rejoiced. that there was not a free school or printing-press in Virginia, and hoped it might be so for a hundred years to come. . . . Private Schools at rich gentlemen's houses, kept perhaps by an unmarried clergyman or candidate for orders, were all the means of education in the colony, and to such the poor had no access.

"There were no libraries in 30 parishes, except in one the Book of Homilies, the Whole Duty of Man, and the Singing Psalms. . . . Education was confined to the sons of those who, being educated themselves, and appreciating the value of it, and having the means, employed private teachers in their families, or sent their sons to the schools in England and paid for them with their tobacco. Even up to the time of the Revolution was this the case with some. General Nelson, several of the Lees and Randolphs, George Gilmer, my own father and two of his brothers, and many besides who might be mentioned, just got back in time for the Revolutionary struggle. The College of William and Mary, from the year 1700 and onward, did something toward educating a small portion of the youth of Virginia, and that was all until Hampden-Sidney (Jan. 1st, 1776), at a much later period, was established" (Bishop MEADE, *ibid.* Vol. i, pp. 190-191). However poor the school system of the colony and young State was, the education of the superior class has ever been a matter of pride. Virginia had produced, up to the late war, more great men than any other state and her intellectual life has ranked high. She has won for herself the proud title of the "Mother of Presidents."

Little progress was made in the sixteenth century in settling

Virginia, the first permanent settlement dating from 1607. I shall therefore base my comparison on the English of the early part of the seventeenth century, though with proper regard to the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries, both of which exerted some influence upon the development of the present pronunciation. As a means of comparison, I shall here insert extracts from early documents of Virginia and give the approximate pronunciation of that day. It will thus be easy to trace the relation between the present and the earlier sounds and show the line of development. The first extract is from *The First Assembly of Virginia*, held July 30, 1619 (in WYNNE and GILMAN'S 'Colonial Records of Virginia,' pp. 10, 11):

The most convenient place we could finde to sitt in was the Quire of the Church Where Sir George Yeardley, the Governour, being sett downe in his accustomed place, those of the Counsel of Estate sate nexte him on both handes, excepte onely the Secretary then appointed Speaker, who sate right before him, John Twine, clerke of the General Assembly, being placed nexte the Speaker, and Thomas Pierse, the Sergeant, standing at the barre, to be ready for any service the Assembly shoulde comaund him. But forasmuche as men's affaires doe little prosper where God's service is neglected, all the Burgesses tooke their places in the Quire till a prayer was said by Mr. Bucke, the Minister, that it would please God to guide and sanctifie all our proceedings to his owne glory and the good of this Plantation. Prayer being ended, to the intente that as we had begun at God Almighty, so we might proceed wth awful and due respecte towards the Lieutenant, our most gracious and dread Sovereigne, all the Burgesses were intreated to retyre themselves into the body of the Church, wch being done, before they were fully admitted, they were called in order and by name, and so every man (none staggering at it) tooke the oathe of Supremacy, and then entred the Assembly.

The second extract is from "A Briefe Declaration of the Plantation of Virginia" (*ibid.* p. 79. The probable date is 1624):

By all which hath heeretofore beene saide concerninge this Collony, from the infancie therof and untill the expiration of Sir Thomas Smith's government, may easily be perceived and plainly understood what just cause he or any els have to boast of the flourishing estate of those times, wherin so great miseries and callamities were indured, and soe few workes of moment or importance performed, himselfe beinge justly to be charged as a prime author therof, by his neglect of providinge and allowinge better meanes to proceede in soe great a worke, and in hindering very many of our frendes from sendinge much releife and meanes who beinge earnestly solicited from hence by our

letters—wherin we lamentable complained unto them—have often besought Sir Thomas Smith that they might have leave to supplie us at their owne charge both with provision of victuall and all other necessities, wherin he utterlie denied them so to doe, protestinge to them that we were in noe want at all, but that we exceeded in abundance and plentie of all things, so that therby our frendes were moved both to desist from sendinge and to doubt the truth of our letters, most part of which weare by him usually intercepted and kept backe; farther giveinge order by his directions to the Govenor heere, that all men's letters should be searched at the goinge away of ships, and if in anye of them weare founde that the true estate of the Collony was declared, they were presented to the Governor and the indighters of them severely punished. . . . .

We must alsoe noat heere, that Sir Thos. Dale, at his arivall finding himself deluded by the aforesaid protestations, pulled Capt. Newport by the beard, and threatninge to hange him, for that he affirmed Sir Thos. Smith's relation to be true, demanding of him whether it weare meant that people heere in Virginia shoulde feed uppon trees.

Our last extract is from Captain SMITH's 'True Relation' (1608), CHARLES DEANE'S edition, pp. 43, 44, 45.

Powhatan hath three brethré, and two sisters, each of his brethren succeeded othor. For the Crowne, their heyres inherite not, but the first heyres of the Sisters, and so successively the weomens heires: For the Kings haue as many weomen as they will, his Subjects two, and most but one. From Weramocomoco is but 12. miles, yet the Indians trifled away that day, and would not goe to our Forte by any perswasions: but in certaine olde hunting houses of Paspahagh we lodged all night. The next morning ere Sunne rise, we set forward for our Fort, where we arriued within an houre, where each man with truest signs of ioy they could expresse welcommed mee, except M. Archer, and some 2. or 3. of his, who was then in my absence, sworne Counsellour, though not with the consent of Captaine Martin: great blame and imputation was laide upon mee by them, for the losse of our two men which the Indians slew: in so much that they purposed to depose me, but in the midst of my miseries, it pleased God to send Captaine Nuport, who arriuing there the same night, so tripled our ioy, as for a while these plots against me were deferred, though with much malice against me, which Captain Newport in short time did plainly see. Now was maister Scriuener, captain Martin, and my selfe, called Counsellours.

---

Dhe Færst ÆSEMBli ɔf Værdzhinæ, HELD Dzhulæi 30, 1619..

Dhe moost Kɔnvenient (or KAnviinient) plææs wii kuud (or kuuld, kould) fæind tu (or tɔ) sît in wæz dhe kwæir ɔf dhe tshærtsh

wheer Sør (or Ser) Dzhɔrdzh JerdLEE, dhe Gævernɔr, biizq set dæun in Hiz ækæstmd plææs, dhooz ɔf dhe kəʊnsəl ɔf estææt nekst Hīm An booth Hændz, eksept ɔʊnlɪ dhe Sekretæəri dhen æpɔɪnted Speekər (or Spiikər), wluu sææt rəɪt bɪfʊər (bɪfuur) Hīm, DzhAn Twəɪn, klærk (klark) ɔf dhe dʒhɛnɛrəl æsɛmblɪ, biizq plææst nekst dhe Speekər (Spiikər), ænd ɔɹmæs Pærs (and Piirs), dhe Særdzhæ-ænt, stændɪq æt dhe bæɹ, tu (tə) biɪ (bee) redɪ fɑr æni sɑrvɪs dhe æsɛmblɪ shuud (shoud) kɔɹmænd (kɔɹmaund) Hīm. Bæt fɑræzmətsh æz (Az) mɛnz æfeerz duu (doo) lɪtl prɔɹspər wheer GAdz sɑrvɪs ɪz neglekted, AAl dhe Bærdzhɛsɛs tuk (tək) dheer plææsɛs ɪn dhe kwæɪr tɪl a preer wæz sEd (sed, seed) bæɪ mɪstər Bæk, dhe Mɪnɪstər, dhæt (dhAt) æt wuud (would) pleez GAd tu (tə) gɔɪd ænd sæqktɪfæi AAl ɹur prɔɪdiɪqz tɔ Hiz ɔʊn glɔɹri (glAAri) ænd dhe gud (gud) ɔf dhe Plæntææshən. Preer biizq ended, tu (tə) dhe ɪntɛnt dhæt æs (Az) wiɪ Hæd biigən (biigən) æt GAd AAlmæɪtɪz, soo wiɪ mæɪt prɔɪ- siid wɪth AAlfəl ænd diu respEkt (riispEkt) tæwærd ɹur mɔost GrEEshɔs ænd dred sɑv'reen (sɔv'reen), AAl dhe Bærdzhɛsɛs weer ɪntreɪtɛd tu rɛtæɪr dhɛmsElvz ɪntu dhe bɔɹdɪ ɔf dhe tshɔrtsh, whɪtsh biizq dæn, bɪfʊər dhæɪ weer fʊlɪ ædmɪtɛd, dhæɪ weer kAAlD ɪn AARdər ænd bæɪ nEEəm, ænd soo ev'əri mæn (mAn). (noon stægerɪq æt ɪt) tuk (tək) dhe ɔʊth ɔf siupremæsi, ænd dhen enterd dhe æsem- blɪ.

æ Briif Deklærææshən ɔf dhe Plæntææshən ɔf Værdzhɪniæ (ibid., p. 79).

Bæɪ AAl whɪtsh Hæth hiirtufoor bɪn sEd kɔnsErniq dhɪs Kɔlonɪ (KAlonɪ) frAm dhe ɪnfænsɪ dheerɔf ænd æntɪl dhe ekspɔɪrææshən ɔf Sør (Ser) ɔɹmæs Smɪths gævɛrnment, mEE EFzɪli (ɪɪzɪli) biɪ pɛrsɛvɛd ænd plEEEnɪ ændərstʊd (stəd) whæt (whAt) dzhɔst kAAz Hii Ar æni els Hæv tu (tə) bɔost ɔf dhe flæɹɪshɪq estææt ɔf dhooz tɔɪmz wheer- ɪn soo grɛet mɪzɛriɪz ænd kælææmɪtɪz weer ɪndiurd (ɪndɪyrd), ænd soo fiu (feu) wærks ɔf mooment Ar (ər) ɪmpArtææns pər fAArmd, HɪmsElf biizq dzhæstli tu (tə) biɪ tshærdzhd æs æ prɔɪm AATHər dheerɔf, bæɪ Hiz neglekt ɔf prɔʊvɔɪdɪq ænd ælɔɪq bEtr miɪnz tu (tə) prɔʊsEEd ɪn soo grɛet (grEET) æ wærk, ænd ɪn Hɪndɪrɪq VEERI MEnɪ (Mænɪ) ɔf ɹur frEndz frAm sendɪq mətsh rɛliɪf ænd miɪnz Huu biizq EErnEstli sɔʊlɪsɪtɛd frAm Hɛns (Hɪns, Miège) bæɪ ər lɛttɛrs— wheerɪn wiɪ læmɛntæblɪ kɔmplEEnd (-pleend) æntu dhEm—Hæv Aftɛn biisoɔt Sør (Ser) ɔɹmæs Smɪth dhæt dhæɪ mæɪt Hæv liiv (leev) tɔ sɔpləɪ æs æt dheer ɔʊn tshærdzh booth wɪth prɔʊvɪzhən ɔf vɪtlz ænd AAl nɛsɪsærɪz, wheerɪn Hii ætɛrlɪ diɪnæɪd dhɛm soo tu (tə) duu (doo), prɔʊtestɪq tu (tə) dhEm dhæt wiɪ weer ɪn noo wænt æt AAl, bæt dhæt wiɪ eksɪɪd ɪn æbændæns ænd plɛntɪ ɔf AAl thɪqz, soo dhæt dheerbæɪ ər frɛndz weer muuvd booth tu (tə) diɪst frA m sendɪq ænd tɔ dæut dhe triuth ɔf ər lɛttɛrs, mɔost pæært (part) ɔf whɪtsh weer bæɪ Hīm ɪuzhɛuæli (ɪuzhiuæli, Miège) ɪntɛrsɛptɛd ænd kæpt bæɪ; færdhɛr gɪvɪq AARdər bæɪ Hiz dɪrɛkshənz tu dhe Gæ- vɛnɔr Hiir dhæt AAl mɛnz lɛttɛrz shuud (shuuld, should) biɪ SEErtsht æt gooiq æwEE ɔf shɪps, ænd ɪf ɪn æni ɔf dhɛm weer fəund dhæt dhe triu estææt ɔf dhe Kɔlonɪ (KAlonɪ) wæz diɪklæærd dhæɪ weer prɪzɛntɛd tu (tə) dhe Gævɛnɔr ænd dhe ɪndæɪtɛrz ɔf dhɛm sɛvEERli pənɪst. . . . . Wiɪ mæst AAlso nɔʊt (NAut) Hiir, dhæt Sør ɔɹs. Dææl, æt Hiz ærɔɪvæl fəɪndɪq HɪmsElf dɛliudɛd (dɛludɛd) bæɪ dhe æfoorsEd prɔʊtestææshənz, puld (pʊld) Kæptɛn NiupArt bæɪ dhe bEERd (bɛrd) ænd thrEtɛnɪq tu (tə) Hæq Hīm, fɑr dhæt Hii æfErmed Sør ɔɹs. Smɪths rɛlææshən tu (tə) biɪ triu, diɪmændɪq (AA, aa) ɔf Hīm whadhər (wheedhər) ɪt weer MEEnt dhæt piɪple Hiir ɪn Værdzhɪniæ shuud fiid əpAn triiz.

FrAm Kæptɛn Smɪths Triu Rɛlææshən (1608), Tshærlz Diɪnz Edi- shən, pp. 43, 44, 45.



PæuHæætæn Hæth thrii bredhren, ænd tuu sîsterz, iitsh ʒf Hiz bredhren sæksiided ædher. FAr dhe Kræun, dheer æirz (EÊrz) in-erit nAt, bæt dhe færst æirz (EÊrz) ʒf dhe sîsterz, ænd soo sæksestivli dhe wimenz æirz (EÊrz): FAr dhe kîqz Hæv æz MENi wînen æz dhæi wîl, Hiz Sæbdzhekts tuu, ænd moost bæt oon (wæn). FrAm Weræmookoomookooiz bæt twelv mæilz, jEt (jæt) dhe Indzhænz træif'ld æwEE dhæt dæi (dEE), ænd wuud (wuuld, would) NAt goo tu æur Foort, bæi æni pærswæzhænz: bæt in sertæn oold (æuld, ould, ould) Hæntiq Hæuzez ʒf PæspeHeg wîl ʒdjEd AAl nait. Dhe next moornîq (MARNîq) EÊr sænraiz, wîl SEt fʒærd fAr æur Foort, wheer wîl æræivd wîdhîn æn æur, wheer iitsh mæn with triuest seinz ʒf dzhAi dhæi kuud ekspres welkæmd mii eksEpt Mîster Artshær, ænd sëm tuu Ar thrii ʒf Hiz, whuu wæs dhEn in mæi æbsEns, Soorn (suurn) kæunsElAr, dhoo nAt with dhe kʒnsent ʒf Kæpten MArtin: greet blææm (blEEem) ænd impiutææshæn wæz lææd (laad, lEEd) æpAn mii bæi dhem fAr dhe lAs ʒf æur tuu men whîtsh dhe Indzhænz sleu (sliu): insoomætsh dhæt dhæi pærpoozd tu depooz mii, bæt in dhe midst ʒf mæi mizeriz, it pleezd GAd tu send Kæptæn NiupArt (poort), whuu æræiviq dheer dhe sææm nait, soo tripld æur djAi (djʒi), æz fAr æwhæil dheez plAts (plʒts) ægæinst (ægeenst, ægEEnst) mii weer defErd (difærd), dhoo with mætsh mæælis ægæinst mii, whîtsh Kæptæn NiupArt (poort) in shArt tæim did plEEnli sii. Næu wæz Mææster (MEEstEster) Skriv'nær, Kæptæn MArtin ænd mæiself KAAlD kæunselærs.

A careful comparison of these extracts shows that the approximate sounds of the Virginia English at the beginning of the seventeenth century may be represented by the following tabular view:—For the sake of convenience we shall give the sounds and then the characters which represent them:

## I. VOWELS.

SOUNDS (ELLIS).	CHARACTERS.
a	e (followed by r; clerke).
aa	ai (laide?); a (Martin).
A	o, a (as, sometimes pr. Az).
AA	{ a before l). o (glory). au.
æ	a, ie (?), e (before r).
ææ	{ a. ai (laide, maister)
e	e, ea, i(? affirm).
ee	{ e. ea (great). ei (their). ay (prayer). ea (? please). ai. ei (perceived).

SOUND (ELLIS).	CHARACTER.
<i>ee</i>	ea (great).
E	e, ai (said), ea (threaten), i (? affirming). ey.
EE	e. ai (affaires, plainly). a (gratious). ay (may). ea (beard).
ə	u, o (followed by v), oo (tooke), o, ou (flourishing), i (first, affirm ?), e, (whether ?), [w] a (forward).
i	e.
ii	e, ea, ie, ee.
i	i, y, ei (giveing ?), ye (anye), eo (weomen).
oo	o (morning ?).
o	o (to).
oo	o, œ, (doe, noe), oa, ou [gh] (though, besought), o (one), [w] o (sworn).
o	o, eo,
oo	o (glory).
u	o, oo, u (pulled).
uu	ou, o (before ?), oe (doe).
uu	[w] o (two, sworn).
u	oo (good), u.

## II. DIPHTHONGS.

Ai	oy (ioy, joy).
æi	ei (their?), ey (they), ai (Maister?).
au	au (comaund).
əi	i, y, [u]i (guide), ie (sanctifie).
EEə	a (name, blame. laide?).
eu	u (usual, pr. <i>zuzheuæl</i> , ew (slew ?).
eu	ew (slew).
əu	ow, ou, o[w] (toward), o (old).
iu	u, ue (due, true), ew (Newport, slew).
zu	u (usual, pr. <i>zuzheuæl</i> ).
oi	oi.
oï	oy (ioy, joy).
ou	ou followed by l (would, should, old).
oou	ow (owne), oa (noat), o (old).

The present sounds and their characters, as near as I have been able to ascertain them, are as follows :

SOUND (ELLIS).	CHARACTER.
aa	ay (mayor, maar).
aa	ai (stair, staar).

SOUND (ELLIS).	CHARACTER.
aa	a (demand, ask, calm, etc.).
aa	au (gaunt, daunt, etc.).
aa	a (Martin).
a	e (where, there, whar, thar).
a	e (yes, well, yas wal).
A	o (dog, God? dAg GAd) off, Af.
AA	{ a (before l; all, half, etc.), a (pass, ask, demand, etc.), o (dog, hog, God; dAAg, HAAg, GAAAd). au (gaunt, daunt, etc.)
æ	a (man, star, etc.), e, a? (before r, care, dare, etc.).
ææ	a (ask, demand, calm), ai (stair, fair, hair, chair, pair), au (gaunt, daunt, etc.).
ææ	e (there, where, etc.), ea (swear, pear, etc.), ei (their), ay (prayer, mayor).
e	e (met, etc.), ea (eat, head, dead, ready, etc.), ae (aesthetics, Daedalus), ea (jeopard, leopard, feof, etc), ie (friend) œ (assafoetida), and such others as are common in English.
ee	Can be heard in : e (there, where, etc.), ea (swear, pear, etc.), ei (their), ay (prayer, mayor, etc.), a (pare, tare, care, dare, etc.).
e and ee	Offer no peculiarities.
E EE	The slight shade of difference existing between this sound and e ee is perceptible, I think, in the pronunciation of individual people of Fredericksburg. The class of words is the same.
ə	u (very common as everywhere in Eng. ; to these add <i>put</i> ) ; ou, sometimes would, could, should, sound nearly ə, but verging to ou (o) which see ; oo, with this sound occurs.
ɔ	(took, cook, shook, look, spoon, good? etc.), but the sound borders on the o again. It is vulgar.
i	i (hill, mill).
i	as everywhere ; interchangeable with e.
o	oo and ou in words like (took, book, etc. ; could, would, etc.), see ə above. (Cf. poor).
o	as usual.
oo	oo (poor) ; o (more, to, progress, process, etc.).

SOUND (ELLIS).	CHARACTER.
ɔ	o (dog, God); on (pond, bond, cf. Charleston pAnd, bAnd), otherwise as elsewhere.
u	as elsewhere.
ʊ	" "
Ai	fails at present.
Æi	ey (they); ei (possibly in their).
Au	ou (house?) select few.
əi	i (very common sound).
EEə	wanting, if not heard occasionally in town. (TEEən), which is commonly (Teeən).
eu	wanting.
eu	ou or ow (south, house, out, about, etc.)
eeu	ou-ow (town, cow, etc.)
ɜu	ou (house, etc.), select few.
Iu	u (due, too, etc.), selecter circle.
Iu	u (due, too, etc.), common form.
<hr/>	
yu or yyu	ov, oo, ou (prove, move, spoon, could, would, etc.; pryuv, or pryyuv, etc.). Here belongs also <i>fruit</i> (fryyut), if not rather to the next.
U	ui (fruit; frUt, like Swedish <i>hus</i> ).
oi	Regular oi-sound
ɔi	oy (oyster).
ou	oa (boat, if not rather oou).
oou	ow (own, note, etc.).
ou	oa (boat, perhaps though rather long, or half-long).
oou	oa (boat).

It will be well to notice some of the deviations from the regular standard pronunciation, as there are a few peculiarities of interest in studying the development of sounds from the English of the first settlers to the present day.

The pure Italian *a* as in *father* is frequently heard. The *a*-sound on the whole approaches rather to this clearer, lighter sound than to the deeper German *a*. Words like *calm*, *psalm*, *palm*, *half*, etc., have two equally authorized standard pronunciations, each of which appear to be traditional in certain of the

best families; they are also sharply divided, on the same lines among the lower classes. Some claim that *kæəm*, *sæəm*, *pæəm*, *hæəf*, etc., is the only standard pronunciation, while others maintain with equal zeal that *kaam*, *saam*, *paam*, *haaf*, is the standard. Here also belong words like *ask*, *demand*, *pass*, etc. Certain cultured old families always pronounce these *æəsk*, *dɪ-mæənd*, *pæəs*. There is also a tendency to carry this sound still farther back towards the guttural vowels and pronounce *pAAs*, so that *passable*, *passible* (*pAAsɪbl*) and *possible* (*pAsɪbl*) sound nearly alike. This is almost the opposite of the early tendency which had *pəsɪbl* and *pAsɪbl*. The educated make a distinction between *ant* (*æənt*) and *aunt* (*aant*), but the commoner people pronounce both (*æənt*). Another class of words enjoys a divided pronunciation; viz., those spelled with *au* like *gaunt*, *haunt*, *jaunt*, etc. These have three different pronunciations. Many educated people pronounce them *gAAnt*, *HAAnt*, *DzhAAnt*, other equally good families tolerate only *gæənt*, *Hæənt*, *Dzhæənt*. The third pronunciation *gaant*, *Haant*, *Dzhaant* is somewhat rare but considered elegant. The *a*-sound is also retained among the uneducated in a certain class of words where it is doubtful whether it is a reflex of the older pronunciation or the influence of the negro element. Such words as *where*, *there*, etc., are commonly pronounced *whaar*, *Dhaar*, etc. The word *stairs* is also called *staars*, *bears*, *baars*, by the same class of people and this, as the others just mentioned, can be traced back to the older language, though it may be accounted for by the negro influence, as this sound is popular among the colored people. But compare ELLIS, p. 72, where there would seem to be authority in England in 1701 for this pronunciation of this and similar words. The word *mayor* is occasionally pronounced *maar* or *meer* though not commonly.

We have already mentioned the vulgarisms *whaar* and *dhaar* for *whæær* and *dhæær*. A more common pronunciation is *wheer*, *dheer*, etc., as in Charleston, though not so general. Here belong *ear*, *here*, *hear*, *pare*, *tare*, *bear*, *there*, *pear*, *tear* (noun and verb), *swear*, *wear*, *fair*, *hair*, *their*, *scarce*, *pair*, *prayer*, *stair*, *chair*, *cheer*, *spear*, *dare*, *gear*, *dear*, *deer*, *appear* and others. In some of these words the sound is not so prolonged as in others, but the tendency is toward this sound (*ee*), nearly like the sound in the French *père*, *faire*. The usual pronunciation of this class of words is, however, *whæær*, *dhæær*,

etc. Occasionally *star* is pronounced (stær). One person was heard to say "I'm goin' up the *stars* (meaning *stairs*, pr. staars) to see the *stairs* (meaning *stars*, pr. stærs). Thus we have the three grades mentioned by ELLIS, pp. 70-71, æ, ææ, EE; for wheer, dheer are also heard, though rarely. One other peculiarity is met in the pronunciation of some of these words. Both ji'r and jə'r for *here* are heard though only among the lowest.

The pronunciation of the long and short e differs but slightly, if any, from the accepted pronunciation. We observe the same fluctuation between *again*, *against* (agEn, agEnst, or ageen, ageenst) as elsewhere. The Latin prefix *pre-* has the two sounds of (ii) and (e) in words like *predicesor* (pr. priidi-sessr, or pred-i-ses-er).

The sound (ə, ɛ) shows a few peculiarities. It is heard frequently, though not generally, in *put* (pət, or perhaps pɛt). A sound approaching very near this is heard in *could*, *would*, *should*, but here it seems to be between the (ə, ɛ) and (o). This sound is not quite SWEET's mid-mixed-wide-round (oh, Fr. homme) but comes near his high-mixed-wide-round (uh, Swedish upp), to judge from his description and the reference to the occasional English pronunciation of 'room,' also heard in Virginia. Here belong also words like *took*, *cook*, *shook*, *book*, *spoon*? *good*? In the last words it is vulgar.

I have noticed at least two cases of short (i) in the words *hill* and *mill* (Hil, Mil), but whether these two cases were individual peculiarities or whether this pronunciation prevails to any extent, I am unable to say. It is certainly not very common. The usual fluctuation between (iidher) and əidher), (niidher) and (nəidher) is found in Fredericksburg. Also in Palaestine (iin) and (əin). In Latin words like *simultaneous* the same fluctuation is observable (səi- or sii-). The word *ear* is often pronounced (jiir), though this is considered vulgar. The (i) sound is interchangeable with (e) in *get* (gɛt, or get) *yesterday* (yester-daei, or yistedaēi), *kettle* (kiɫ or ketɫ).

It is extremely difficult to say that the open (o)-sound is heard, though I am quite positive I heard it in the one word *poor* (poo[r]). Even here the sound of (oo) is more general, (poo[r]) being a very common pronunciation. Compare also remarks to (ə, ɛ, ɛ). The two pronunciations of (*proo*-gres) and (pɔɔC-gres), (*proo*-ses) and (pɔɔC-ses) are both well authorized.

A tendency opposite to the one noticed in Charleston where the vowel *o* is lengthened before *nd* in the words *pond* and *bond* makes them doubly short, thus (*pana*, *band*). The pronunciation of the preposition *to* (*too*) is now obsolescent. There is a tendency to pronounce the words *God*, *dog*, etc., with the open *o* (*God*, *dog*, etc.).

Among the diphthongs we find the following peculiarities. The sound (au, as in German Haus) is heard among a select few in *house*, *now*, etc., though the usual pronunciation is here (eu), never (əu). This latter diphthong (eu) is long (eu) in *town*, *cow* and some other words, and short (eu) in most words; as, *house*, *out*, *about*, *south*, etc. Often (EEə) is heard instead of the long (eeu), and (Eə) instead of short (eu). The diphthong (iu) is very common and the first element is often lengthened (iiu). Sometimes, however, the vanish is prolonged (iu<sup>u</sup>). Instead of (iu), (i<sup>u</sup>) is often heard, especially among the lower classes. In words like *prove*, *move*, *spoon*, *could*, *would*, *should*, etc., the diphthong (yu, yyu) is quite common. *Fruit* may be classed here also, or the sound often comes nearer the Swedish *u* in *hus* (frUt), or (yw). The same sound seems to be peculiar to people from the middle and upper parts of South Carolina.—The words *boat*, *own*, *note* offer a variety of sounds. Both vowels are sounded in *boat*, the first generally prolonged, and the second often having the pure (a) sound (bo-at, or better boo-at). But often one hears (bo-ut or boo-ut). The last two sounds are common to *own* and *note*. The sounds (ou and oou) are also heard in these words, though they are rather half long.

Careful observation has led me to conclude that the people of Fredericksburg have one pure triphthong. The character is the *ou* in words like *house*, *out*, etc., which are pronounced Hæ-a-əs, æ-a-ət, etc. The more intelligent make a distinction in the time of the two vowels (a, ə), some prolonging the (a) and others the (ə) sound Hæ-aa-əs, Hæ-a-əəs. This latter is peculiar to the cultured class. The prolonged a-element is heard in *sound*, *round*, the prolonged ə-element in *bout*, *doubt*, etc. There is an affected pronunciation of diphthong *ou* sometimes heard which sounds something like (ooə) or (ooə). This sound is peculiar to the word *out*.

---

The consonants offer almost no peculiarities. The *h* is often

followed by the j-sound in the word *here* (Hjeer); the *h* then frequently becomes a mere breathing ('jeer). The same exchange of *w* for *v*, as (prowok) for (provok) prevails here as elsewhere. The *h* never disappears in the combination *wh* as in Charleston, S. C. The *r* is at all events an evanescent sound in English and difficult to detect under all circumstances. Here it seemingly disappears in words like *door*, *more*, *floor*, *before*, *war*, etc. The disappearance however, is only partial. The vocal organs assume the proper position for pronouncing the soft *r* and then stop before producing the sound, thus *doo'h*, *moo'h*, *floo'h*, *bi-floo'h*, *wA'h*. For this suggestion I am indebted to Prof. F. A. MARCH of Lafayette College.

We find here the same dropping of the *g* in the ending *-ing* as in other parts of the country. The consonants *g* and *k* are palatalized as in Charleston. One hears (k'jart, gjarden, skjul, gjær, etc.). This pronunciation is of course not general. Some consider it vulgar and avoid it, but it can be heard in the best families.

A careful comparison of these peculiarities with the earlier pronunciation will show that most of them are merely survivals of that earlier pronunciation brought to this country by the first settlers. "In the seventeenth century the pronunciation of English altered rapidly, and many words were sounded in a style, which, owing to the influence of our orthoepists of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, is now generally condemned, although well known among the less educated classes." ELLIS, 'E. E. P.' 1000. In America this older pronunciation has never lost caste in the section in which it is used. It is confined to States, to certain parts of States, but is always considered standard wherever it has been retained. Outside influence has but rarely modified it here and there. The negro influence can be recognized in Fredericksburg but it is not my intention to treat that phase of the subject.

There is one striking peculiarity in the pronunciation of the whole South, that is the difference in the intonation of the voice, as it is generally called, or a difference in acoustic color as it is technically designated; the Germans call it *klangfarbe* and the French *timbre*. At present I am unable to say what causes this difference. It is possibly the more open air life of the South which causes them to produce the vowels with a more open mouth.